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The Hongkong Telegraph

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January 14, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 48 2 p.m. 55
Humidity 18 18

January 14, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 54 2 p.m. 61
Humidity 50 48

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.

Barometer 30.252

7853 二初月二十

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1918.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Enemy Protest Against Russian Propaganda.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that a telegram from Brest-Litovsk, via Berlin, states that at the plenary meeting on January 12, Herr von Hoffmann again protested against the Russian wireless propaganda, because it transgressed the terms of the armistice and intended to carry revolution and civil war into the Central Empires.

M. Trotsky replied that the armistice in no wise restricted the expression of Russian opinion.

Herr von Kuhlmann declared that non-interference in Russian affairs was a fixed principle of the German Government, which, however, demanded complete reciprocity.

M. Trotsky replied that the Russian Government would regard it as a step forward if Germany freely and frankly expressed views regarding the internal conditions of Russia.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

A Check on Constituent Assembly Members.

London, January 13.
A Russian wireless message states that the Central Executive of the Councils of Workmen, Soldiers and Peasants Deputies have decreed giving local Councils power to re-elect or recall members of the Constituent Assembly in all cases where they do not express the views of the labouring masses.

A Maximalist News Agency statement shows that the above decree is intended to bring about the recall or re-election of all anti-Maximalist members of the Constituent Assembly. The News Agency states that the Peasants' Congress of the Twelfth Army has decided to recall three Social Revolutionaries of the Right, whom it elected. A number of Governments has decided similarly.

Ukrainian Questions.

London, January 13.
An All-Ukrainian Sea Congress has been summoned to meet at Kieff on the 23rd instant to discuss the questions of a Ukrainian Constituent Assembly, reports from the Black Sea Navy to Ukraine, the re-organisation of the Navy on a voluntary basis, and the organisation of Trade Unions.

SUPREME OFFENSIVE AT VERDUN.

German Great Scheme of Revenge.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that *Le Matin* publishes a statement by an eminent neutral who came from Berlin on January 7, declaring that the Germans will launch a supreme offensive at Verdun. It is intended to be the Crown Prince's revenge, with big diversions in Italy and in the direction of Calais, as soon as the weather permits.

THE PLAGUE IN CHINA.

Foreign Doctors Complain of Being Mobbed.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Shanghai states that Dr. Wu Lien-teh, Lewis and Eckfeldt (American citizen) and Joneslet (a French citizen) have wired the *North China Daily News* from Fregoben, in Shansi, the centre of the plague district, to the effect that they have been mobbed, the local Magistrate morally supporting the crowd and the soldiers inciting the populace to further excesses. Apparently the doctors' messages are not allowed to reach the Foreign Legations in Peking.

RETURN OF GERMAN PRISONERS.

Captain of the Emden Among the Number.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that three Dutch ships with German war prisoners and civilians have arrived at Rotterdam from England. The prisoners included von Mueller, the Captain of the Emden; Wallis, the Captain of the Bluecher; and the son of Admiral von Tirpitz; also many infantry officers captured in South-West Africa. The Germans acknowledged the good tone which marked British conduct towards themselves.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, January 13.
An Italian official message states that the artillery is active on the Asiago Plateau to the east of the Piave Vecchia. British batteries obtained many direct hits on hostile emplacements on the left bank of the Piave.

MR. HUGHES TO AGAIN VISIT ENGLAND.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Sydney says that the *Sunday Times* announces, on the best of authority, that Mr. Hughes will sail for England, probably in March, to consult with Mr. Lloyd George and representatives of the Dominions and Allied Governments on war problems and post-war matters. Mr. Hughes has been urgently invited to participate in a discussion of the economic side of the war and also as a plenipotentiary able to bind the Commonwealth to a number of matters.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE GERMAN COLONIES.

Vain Hopes for the Future.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that the Association of South Sea Traders has telegraphed to Dr. Solf, the German Colonial Secretary, expressing joy at the appointment of a Governor of New Guinea as promising a vigorous Colonial policy of holding firmly to "our richly blessed South Sea Colonies, now in the hands of the enemies." Dr. Solf replied, hoping that the German flag would soon again be flying "over our fine South Sea Colonies."

ARMY AND NAVY PAY.

War-Time Increases for Officers.

London, January 13.
The War Cabinet has decided to increase subalterns' pay during the war to a minimum of half a guinea daily from October 1, last year. There are also consequential increases for Captains and Majors. The decision will also make the allowances for children two pounds each, monthly to a maximum of eight pounds for subalterns and Captains, and half of the foregoing for Majors. The age-limits are extended to eighteen for boys and twenty-one for unmarried girls. Practically corresponding increases and allowances are generally made for all junior naval officers. It is estimated that the foregoing concessions will, initially, cost seven and half millions annually.

EAST AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

Reported Escape of Enemy Troops.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that a Berlin semi-official message states that, according to a wireless message, 1,700 German and 9,500 native troops escaped to Portuguese territory from German East Africa.

ARGENTINE WHEAT FOR THE ALLIES.

London, January 13.
A message from Buenos Aires states that an important agreement has been completed between the Argentine and representatives of the Anglo-French Governments regarding the Allied purchase of the Argentine wheat crop. The Argentine will grant Great Britain and France credit up to forty million sterling to facilitate the purchase and keep the rate of exchange normal.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, January 13.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—There were night patrol encounters south-east of Arras. A French communique states:—Between January 1 and 10, we brought down fifteen enemy aeroplanes. The destruction of twelve others is most probable but cannot be confirmed.

THE HOSPITAL SHIP OUTRAGE.

London, January 13.
Reuter is officially informed that there were no mines where the *Rewa* sank.

GERMANY'S TERRITORIAL POLICY DENOUNCED.

London, January 13.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that, addressing the first meeting of the Polish Society in Berlin, Professor Hanadbrueck urged Germany to renounce territorial acquisitions in the east and west, on grounds not pacifist, but of higher political sagacity. He instanced the brilliant success of British policy in South Africa.

SUCCESSFUL ARAB OPERATIONS.

London, January 13.
It is officially announced that confirmation has been obtained of the success of the Arab operations against the Hedjaz Railway to the north of Maan during three days in the first week of January. The Arabs gained possession of an important portion of the line, wrecking and burning the rolling stock and damaging bridges. The raiders retired with prisoners and booty.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, January 12.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed three raids southward of Lens. Hostile artillery is active south-westward of Cambrai and in the neighbourhood of Lens and Messines.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY DISASTER.

London, January 12.
A disastrous colliery explosion has occurred at Halmesford, Staffordshire. Many are entombed. So far a hundred, some dead, have been brought to the surface and 140 are missing.

BEERSHEBA.

(By Major C. J. C. Street.)

Beersheba, which was captured by the British troops under the command of General Allenby on October 31st, is a town of some importance on the southern boundary of Palestine. It lies roughly midway between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, being twenty-nine miles in a direct line from the nearest point on the coast of the former, and thirty-four from the latter.

Beersheba stands as the most southerly outpost of the biblical Judaea, a country proverbially rich and fruitful, although now somewhat fallen into decay under Turkish rule. To the South lies the inhospitable desert of Sinai, with its treeless expanses of rock and sand, to the North and West alone has some attempt been made to cultivate the soil. The town itself lies about eight hundred feet above sea level, at the foot of the high lead to the North, which rises in some places to nearly three thousand feet in a series of irregular spurs which form the vertebrae of the main chain of hills running North and South.

The strategic importance of the place is explained by the fact that it formed the main support of the left wing of the Turkish Army operating in Southern Palestine. For the support of this Army the Turks had constructed a narrow-gauge railway, some fifty or sixty miles long, winding northwards through Palestine until it joined the existing line between Jaffa and Jerusalem at or near Kezaz.

This line, roughly and hurriedly constructed at the best, has suffered severely from the activities of British raiding parties during the past few months. For instance, during the later days of May, 1917, the Southern extension of the railway, which passed through Bir Asloj and Es-Sabita to El Auja, just on the Turkish side of the Egyptian frontier, was cut for a length of ten miles between Bir Asloj and Hadaj. The maintenance of this line of communication has been, throughout the campaign, a matter of great difficulty for the Turks.

Besides the railway, Beersheba is the southern terminus of the highway that forms the main southern artery of Palestine. This road, which is of great antiquity, runs from Jerusalem through Bethlehem (Bait Lubbm) to Hebron (El Khullil), and there splits into two branches, one branch running south-east to the southern end of the Dead Sea, the other south-west direct to Beersheba. The distance from Jerusalem to Beersheba by this road is almost exactly fifty miles.

During the progress of the war the road has been greatly improved, its surface has in many places been renewed, and the steep gradients of the two thousand feet climb between Beersheba and Hebron have been modified. It is now suitable for heavy motor transport, for which purpose it has apparently been much used by the Turks, as a means of relieving the traffic on the railway.

The history of Beersheba has its origins in the remotest times. Its geographical position would naturally make it a place of some importance to travellers from the desert of Sinai into Palestine. It would of course be of far less importance than Gaza, which lies on the direct caravan route from Egypt, but it was certainly a place of rest and refreshment very early in the world's history. The name probably means "The Seven Wells," showing that it possessed a water supply, and the points where water could be obtained were the determining factor in the mapping out of the routes across the desert. In the time of patriarch Abraham there were probably a number of wells were probably the site of a small village, which grew by degrees throughout biblical times until in the fourth century A.D. Esau and Jerome speak of the place as a large village or town. At this time it was also the seat of a Roman Garrison, who found it a convenient spot from which to control the traffic passing in and out of Judaea round the southern end of the Dead Sea. Later still, in medieval times, the town was the seat of a Bishopric.

"THE COURT CARDS."

To lovers of a bright, refined entertainment, the programme of the "Court Cards" will appeal as much as cards themselves do to lovers of a quiet little game. Mirth and melody are judiciously blended in artistic settings, and the diversified talents of the happy combination of artists provide an excellent evening's diversion. Miss Vio Parsons, in her character of Queen of Hearts, is responsible for dealing much piquant yet dainty humour which never fails to secure its merited meed of appreciation from a discerning audience. Miss Dorothy Grace, Queen of Diamonds, for artistic singing, more than supplies the needful. Miss Rosina Palmerston, Queen of Clubs, with her mandoline, adds just that "ohio" needed to harmonise the whole. Mr. Geo. Titchener, as King of Clubs, is another great favourite and versatile in the extreme. Mr. Laurie Barman, the Knave of Spades, is a baritone with a very fine compass. Mr. Albert Keats, King of Spades, is a gifted pianist and vocalist, and Mr. Edgar Warwick, The Joker of the pack, is too funny for words and deals out a refreshing type of humour and wins every trick.

This clever little band of artists commences their Hongkong season at the Theatre Royal on Saturday night, January 19, in a complete new programme. Five per cent. of the gross receipts will be donated to the Red Cross Fund during the season. The booking is, as usual, at Montreux.

The modern village of Bireseba is built about a mile from the ruins of the old town. These ruins lie to the north-east of the village, and contain traces of considerable architectural development. The stones and other materials have unfortunately been used as a quarry for the building of the modern village, and very little remains of the old town but the footings of the walls and a few heaps of tumbled stones. Some idea of the extent of the old town in its most flourishing days can, however, be gathered from the size of these ruins, which cover about a thousand acres.

In the early years of the present century Bireseba was a village of from eight hundred to a thousand inhabitants, possessing houses and gardens, a mosque, and, more important than all, a post-office. Although pleasant in comparison with the desert land to which it could not compare either in beauty or prosperity with the towns along the main caravan route between Egypt and Syria, or with the more favoured localities situated farther north among the hills. Since the war its character has completely changed and developed into a considerable military base, the railway at the end of the line of communication from the Turkish base. The communique describes the place as having been taken after a determined resistance, and we shall probably learn that a considerable quantity of stores were captured or destroyed. There is no doubt, in any case, that the loss of this railway will prove a severe blow to the Turkish plans for the defence of Syria.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of January 13 as follows:—

The members of the Provincial Assembly entertained Chan King-ming to a tea party held for the purpose of wishing him success in the expedition to Fukien, on the 12th inst. The latter, after inspecting the troops on the drill ground, rode to the Assembly and was welcomed by all the members. A speech was delivered by Wu Hon-man to the effect that the expeditionary army is not for the purpose of attack but to relieve the people of Fukien who are suffering from the cruel treatment of illegal officials.

Commander Lau Ping-yue and the Defence Commissioner, Lang Shui-shai, have reported that a few thousand of Lung Chai-kwong's troops have been repulsed by the Canton soldiers in a place about 10 li from Limchow city. Over 200 of Lung's soldiers were killed and a large quantity of ammunition captured.

On hearing that a detachment of Lung's army will be sent to reinforce Fuxien under the protection of part of the Northern squadron, the Authority requested Admiral Ching Pih-kwong to dispatch warships to intercept it.

A passenger junk from Hongshan to Canton, while passing Chan Chuen, was pirated and very large booty was taken.

Lang Chai-kwong has arrived to Luk Wing-ting stating that his army while inspecting Ko Chow and Lim Chow were attacked and forced to fight.

HONOURED BY JAPAN.

Decorations for British Naval Officers.

The following decorations have been conferred by the Emperor of Japan on officers of the British Naval Forces for distinguished services rendered during the war:—

Order of Rising Sun with Paulownia (Grand, Cordon).—Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fisher of Kilverstone, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., L.L.B.; Admiral the Marquess of Milford Haven, P.O., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., K.O.M.G.

Order of the Rising Sun (Grand Cordon).—Admiral Sir Henry B. Jackson, G.C.B., K.C.V.O., F.R.S.

Order of the Sacred Treasure (1st Class).—Rear-Admiral (acting Vice-Admiral) Sir Henry F. Oliver, K.C.B., M.V.O.; Surge-General Sir Arthur W. May, K.C.B., F.R.C.S., K.H.P.

Order of the Rising Sun (2nd Class).—Rear-Admiral (acting Vice-Admiral) F. O. T. Tudor, C.B.; Rear-Admiral M. Singer, C.B.; Rear-Admiral O. L. Vaughan-Lee, C.B.; Rear-Admiral T. Jackson, C.B., M.V.O.; Rear-Admiral O. F. Lambert; Rear-Admiral the Hon. V. A. Stanley, M.V.O.; Rear-Admiral L. Halsey, C.B., O.M.G.; Rear-Admiral Sir R. W. Hall, K.O.M.G., C.B.; Rear-Admiral A. F. Everett, C.B., 3rd Class; Captain E. M. Paillott, C.B., A.D.C., R.N.; Captain F. W. Dames, C.B., O.V.O., R.N.; Captain R. Webb, C.B., A.D.C., R.N.; Captain S. S. Hall, C.B., R.N. (Commodore, 1st Class); Capt. M. F. Suster, C.B., R.N. (Commodore, 1st Class); Captain H. R. Norbury, R.N.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.
Saturday, January 19.
"Court Cards" at the Theatre Royal—9.15 p.m.

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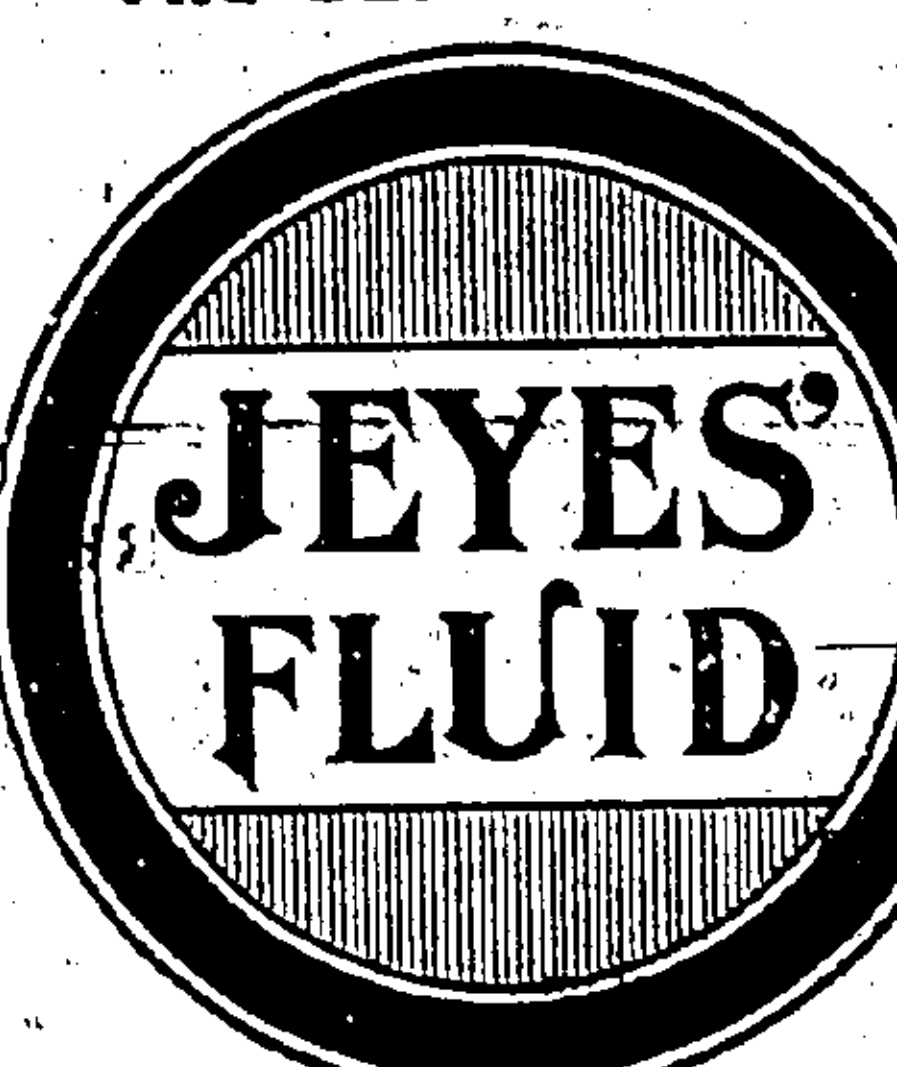
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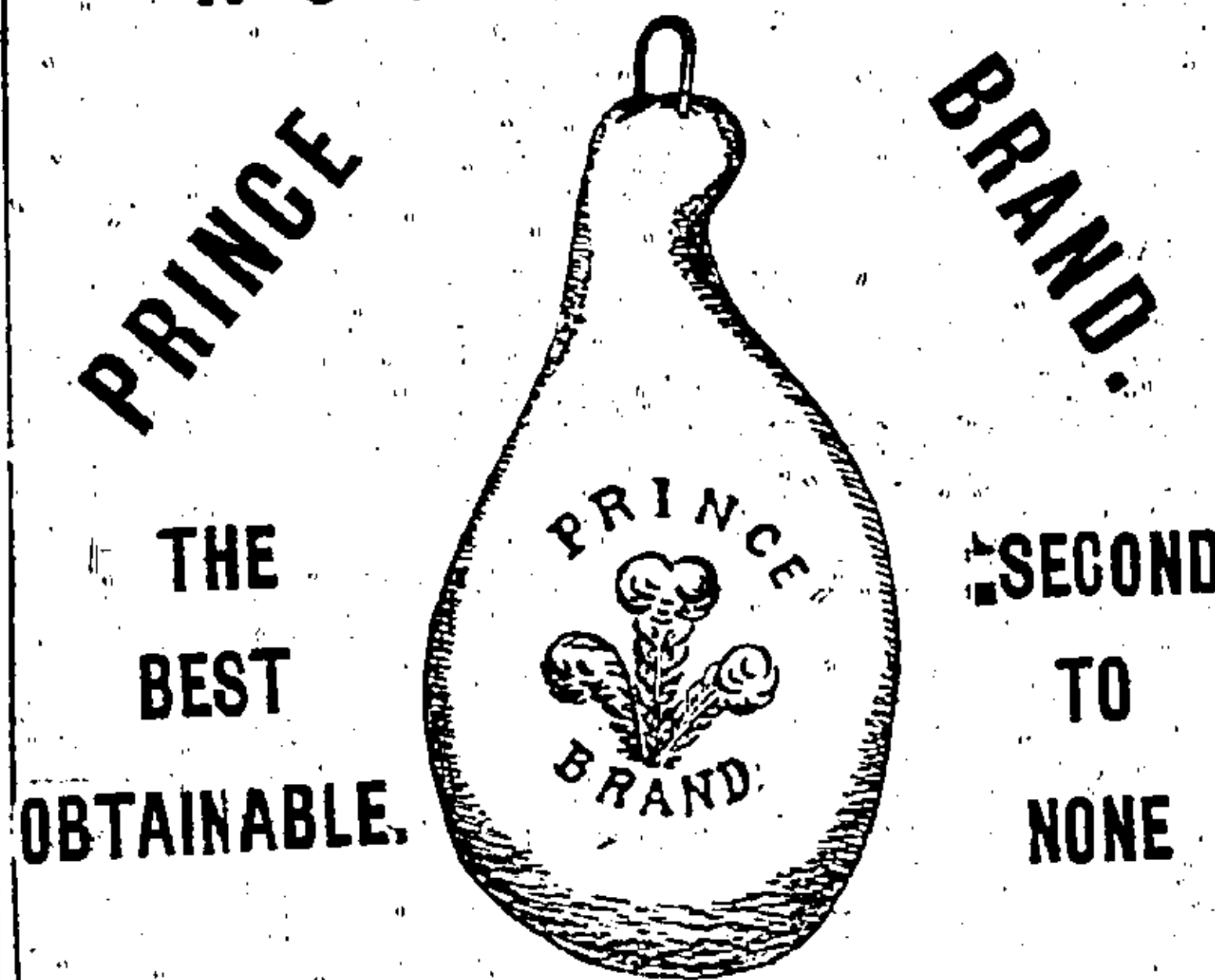
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GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Justice Ridley's Annuity. It is announced that the King has been pleased to grant an annuity of £3,500 to Sir Edward Ridley, formerly one of the Justices of the High Court.

New Japanese Peers. It was gazetted recently, says the Kobe Herald, that Mr. Okabe, ex-Governor of Osaka, Viscount Takishiro, ex-Ambassador to Washington, Dr. Kitazato, Mr. Munakata and Mr. Wada have been nominated by His Majesty members of the House of Peers.

A Chinese "Unlawful Assembly." Fifteen Chinese were charged recently by Mr. D. Beatty, Protector of Chinese, Singapore, with being members of an unlawful assembly. They were discharged by the third magistrate, but all were bound over to keep the peace for six months in one surety in the sum of \$100 each.

"Our Day" Collections. Last year Canada was first of the Overseas Dominions in the Our Day collections with \$322,000. This year exclusive of street collections her total was more than \$1,000,000. India will probably reach about \$350,000. It is just possible the Straits may be third with its \$111,000, but Egypt is a strong competitor and Australia is doing well, says a Singapore contemporary.

The Plague in the North. Dr. Wu Lien-teh left Peking for Feng-choo, the terminus of the Peking-Saiyuan Railway, yesterday morning, says the Peking Daily News of January 4. He has taken three assistants with him and all the necessary appliances for diagnosing cases of plague. We understand that a quarantine station will be established at Fengchen so as to prevent as far as possible the spreading of the plague along the railway.

Obituary. Probably the oldest Eurasian resident of Singapore passed away on Christmas Day, in the person of Mrs. Catherine Neubronner, at the age of 80 years. She was born in Malacca, and married the late Mr. Anthony Neubronner, the chief English and Malay interpreter of the Supreme Court there, whom she had survived many years now. The funeral and burial took place the following afternoon at the Bidarai Cemetery, the service being conducted by Archdeacon Sandell.

Portugal and England. Ex-President Machado, of Portugal, whilst at the front recently reviewed his own troops and made a stirring speech to them. He told them that their object ought to be to draw tighter still the bonds that united them to England in an intimate communion. The troops under General Tamegami, the Commander-in-Chief, responded very cheerfully to the suggestion. This handsome contingent, by the way, was transported by water without the least accident, which is proof that the U-boat has, after all, a limited power of mischief.

The Cadet Movement At Home. Mr. Percy Harris, at the Central Y.M.C.A., recently outlined his scheme for the development of the cadet movement, which he pointed out had 14 million of youths to draw upon. It should be organized from the Central Association Volunteer Regiments, through the Territorial Associations, and would be equipped with well-trained men to serve as officers. Sir R. Baden Powell commended the movement, which he said was most necessary at the present time to counteract the spread of juvenile crime. It should be primarily an educative force before a military one.

The Late Mr. F. J. B. Dykes. Our Kuala Lumpur correspondent wires (says the Singapore Free Press of January 3rd) that a cable has been received there announcing the death in England of Mr. F. J. B. Dykes, formerly senior warden of mines, F.M.S., and since 1910 deputy agent Malay States Development Agency. Mr. Dykes came out to the F.M.S. in 1892 as inspector of mines and acted in that capacity in most of the States. In 1893 he was senior warden of mines, F.M.S., and retired in 1910. He was 49 years of age.

GENERAL NEWS.

Consular Appointment.
Mr. J. Briboris, Belgian Consul-General at Seoul, has been appointed Consul-General in Yokohama, succeeding Mr. C. Bastin who recently left for Liege.

A Russian Arrested.
A Russian passenger on the Yamashiro Maru, which passed through Nagasaki for Shanghai, was arrested by the Nagasaki Water Police on a charge of illegal possession of opium. He was alleged to have obtained the drug in Vladivostok.

Obituary.
Mr. Alfred William Playfair, professor of English literature in Keio University, died at Kowloon in the Hakone region recently from a sudden attack of heart disease. Mr. Playfair, who was 47 years old, had gone to Hakone for a short vacation during the New Year holidays.

Fighting at Nan Yang.
Fighting is reported to have taken place at Nan Yang between General Chao Ti's troops and the independent troops under Li Tien-tai. The Government troops at first got the upper hand, but fell into an ambush when pursuing the rebels and were defeated.

Repairing the Flood Damage.
The Chinese Government has granted the sum of \$130,000 towards the cost of constructing a road between Peking and Tientsin. The American Red Cross will also give \$100,000 for the same purpose.—Peking Daily News.

Ingenuous Opium Smuggling.
There is no end to the ingenuity of opium smugglers, says the Englishman of Calcutta. A couple of days ago an up-country man, dressed in military attire, was arrested at the Howrah railway station, while slighting with a trunk from the down Delhi express. On examining the trunk it was found to have a false bottom which was stuffed with opium weighing about six seers.

Nest of Japan Counterfeiters Unearthed.

Two men named Hisatome Tokutaro and Obaya Sakuro were arrested in Nagoya a few days ago for attempting to forge national bonds, says the Kobe Herald. They are reported to have confessed that they had been counterfeiting national bonds of ¥500 face value, with two other Japanese in Nagoya. Their plan was to make bonds amounting to ¥1 million yen and use them as security in obtaining loans from the Chinese Government.

Far Eastern Honours.

Authority has been granted by the King to Mr. T. H. Sanders, teacher in the Yamaguchi Higher Commercial School, to wear the Insignia of the Fifth Class, of the Order of the Rising Sun, conferred upon him by the Emperor of Japan; and to Mr. N. MacLean, master of the s.s. Irene, Mr. G. M. Waggott, master of the s.s. Kwang Ping, Mr. H. MacKinnon, master of the s.s. Hein Ming, and Mr. J. Halkett, master of the s.s. Heing Kong, to wear the Insignia of the Fourth Class of the Order of the Striped Tiger, conferred upon them by the President of the Republic of China.

A Widow's Suicide.

Mrs. Mabel Hyde, a widowed lady 44 years of age, who had lived in India for a number of years, returned to England recently in order to see her son, an officer in the Royal Flying Corps, whom she had not met for eight years. She landed at Southampton and while in the train on the journey to London a fellow passenger gave her a newspaper to read. Mrs. Hyde was then shocked to see there in that day's casualty lists the name of her son among the killed. After arriving at Waterloo she proceeded to the War Office, where the tragic news was confirmed. The lady then went to her sister's house at Maxwell Hill, where she spent a restless night. Next day she made her will, and wrote a number of farewell letters. At night she took the contents of a bottle of tablets which contained a poison of the opiate class. She was found later in a comatose condition, and the efforts of two doctors to restore her were unsuccessful. At the inquest, which was held at Hove, the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind."

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ROLL OF HONOUR.

Major Ernest Glenville Waymouth, R.A., who died on Oct. 16, aged 48, obtained his first commission from Woolwich in 1888. Subsequently he served in the Nile Expedition in 1898, and was mentioned in despatches for his services, receiving the 4th Class of the Medjidie and medal. He also served in China in 1900 as Adjutant to the Royal Artillery, and took part in the relief of Tientsin and also in the relief of Peking. He was also present in the actions of Peltung and Yangtun, and was awarded the medal with clasp. Major Waymouth was well known as a cricketer, having played for many years for the Royal Artillery; he was a prominent member of I. Zingari and and Free Foresters. He was also a fine Rugby football player, and was the first president of the Army Rugby Union. He leaves a widow and two children. His brothers are Vice-Admiral A. W. Waymouth, C.B., and Major C. S. H. Waymouth.

Major F. W. Thicknesse, R.A., D.S.O., elder son of Prebendary Thicknesse, rector of St. George's, Hanover Square, died of wounds on October 19, aged 31. He was a scholar of Winchester, and passed second into Woolwich. He joined the R.G.A., and was on the staff at Hongkong at the outbreak of war. He was thus unable to reach the Front till May, 1915. He had commanded his battery of heavy guns for about 15 months. He was twice mentioned in despatches, and was given the D.S.O. last May.

Captain Richard O. Kinder, Royal Fusiliers, was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Kinder, of Gilbert Road, Bromley, and grandson of the late Rev. Andrew Welch, at one time vicar of St. Mary Gray. Educated at Feist School, he was for some years in the City with Gilman Bros., and left for the East in 1907. He was in the Federated Malay States at the outbreak of war, holding a commission in the Malay States Volunteer Rifles. He returned to England last February, and after training with the Royal Fusiliers, left for the Front on Sept. 10. The battalion to which he was attached seems to have been heavily engaged soon after he joined it, and he fell on Sept.

GERMAN INTRIGUE.

A Strong Picture of the Remorseless Hun Method.

The New York Tribune, in an editorial on recent revelations of the methods of German diplomacy, says:—

"The business of a German diplomat, his chief occupation, is to intrigue against the governments which receive him in the interest of the country which sends him. 'He hires assassins, he hires pickpockets, he hires 'agents provocateurs,' he mobilises the underworld to attack public officials of the government to which he is accredited. This is the German diplomat."

"As for German diplomacy, it is used as the facade for murder. It seeks to persuade peoples whose rights Germany means to invade, whose citizens Germany means to kill, that it is their moral duty to submit to these things, as it is Germany's inherent right to do them."

"But because there is a suspicion to the German mind that 'stupid' Governments will not submit to these things, German diplomacy seeks to sandbag these Governments."

"What on earth is the use of talking of peace, reconciliation, anything but war with a nation which holds to such ideas as these? For a quarter of a century German Ambassadors and Ministers all over the world have been intriguing and plotting, corrupting and debauching, for the sole purpose of permitting Germany to commit crimes in the world and escape the punishment thereof."

"German diplomacy has borrowed the methods of the Mafia and covered them with the uniform of diplomacy. It has stolen the historic procedure of the highwayman and sought to transform it by decoration bestowed by the Kaiser himself."

"Was there ever anything in the world so grotesque as and more atrocious than this whole German thing, this disease of Germanism, manifested by symptoms now familiar to the world?"

20 at an advanced place. His closest friend writes:—"When last I saw him alive he was bravely rallying the men under the most appalling shell fire. He would have been 32 on Sept. 25."

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Mr. Charles Sykes, Director of Wool Textile Production, recently, at Bradford, explained the Government scheme for the placing on the market of standard clothes for civilian wear.

In the first instance there would be one type of cloth, at a price of about 6s. a yard. But it would be possible to introduce a reasonably large variety of patterns. The clothier would make suits and sell them at a fixed price to the retailer.

So far as he could judge, the price of a man's suit in a shop would be £2.10s., which would give a reasonable profit to each branch of production. He had also considered the question of clothing for boys, and patterns were now being prepared of cloths suitable for its purpose which would allow suits for young boys to be sold at 22s. 6s., for older boys at £1.10s., and for youths at £2.

It was hoped also to arrange for a standard flannel by fixing price and inviting manufacturers to conform to a standard specification.

Capt. J. E. Needham. We understand (says the N. C. Daily News) that Captain J. E. Needham, late of the Public Works Department (Shanghai), who was transferred from the 14th West Yorks Regiment for service with the Chinese Labour Battalion in France, has been transferred to the Welsh Fusiliers, and is now at Gibraltar.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

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All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G. P. O. and at all Police Stations.

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Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Committee has decided that the following shall be the settlement days for the year 1918:—

Tuesday 29th January
Friday 22nd February
Wednesday 27th March
Friday 26th April
Wednesday 27th May
Thursday 27th June
Monday 29th July
Thursday 29th August
Friday 29th September
Tuesday 29th October
Thursday 28th November
Friday 27th December

By order of Committee,
A. H. G. JACKSON,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong Stock Exchange.
Hongkong, 28th December, 1917.

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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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DEATHS.

SMITH.—At Kobe, on the 11th inst., Matthiessen Smith, Manager, Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

CASTLE.—On January 7, at the Hangchow Christian College, Mrs. Florence Rodd Castle, aged 39, wife of the Rev. H. Castle, of Tung-lu Church Missionary Society.

TYTLER.—On January 7, 1918, at Shanghai, John Edward Tytler, of Manchester, England, aged 41 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1918.

RUSSIA'S CONFUSION.

The further the situation in Russia develops the clearer does it become that the utmost misapprehension prevails among those into whose control the country has fallen regarding the general policy of the Allies in the war. The Bolsheviks are manifestly an ultra-Socialistic force. Hence it is not altogether to be wondered at that their outlook is intensely visionary and that they fail to ignore stern practicalities. M. Trotsky has at least been thoroughly consistent all along the line in the peace negotiations, but he also has been amazingly blind in failing to see that the Germans are in no sense sincere in their attitude towards the Russian people. In spite of the fact that the German proposals have been described by the Bolsheviks themselves as being utterly impossible, we find M. Trotsky willing to proceed with the futile business of further negotiations with the Prussian Militarists and even of conceding them a point by not insisting that the purporters take place in neutral territory. What possible good he imagines will come from further discussions we cannot conceive, for the peace that Germany wants is not one which is likely to commend itself to the Russian democrats.

But the most startling turn of all comes in the Manifesto issued by the Bolshevik Commander-in-Chief to the effect that Russia is surrounded by enemies on all sides, and that hence "a Holy War" is contemplated against the bourgeoisie of Russia, Germany, Britain and France. Here we see evidence of a most distorted conception of the real situation. We had an idea that the Russians' quarrel, as that of the Entente Powers generally, was with Militarism. Now it appears to be with the bourgeoisie (or the middle classes) of a number of nations, including their own and those of Germany, Britain and France. Strangely enough, the call to battle is addressed to the masses of Italy, Spain, France, Austria and Switzerland—a combination which is as weird as remarkable. What form the "Holy War" is to take we are not told, but the scheme involves the creation of a so-called People's Army which is to be well-armed and which is described as a force of "resisters." The whole thing reads like an extravagant dream. One point that immediately suggests itself is that Russia's energies would be far better expended in organising to oppose the real enemy militarily than in concocting absurd and impracticable schemes for the purpose of battling with imaginary foes. If she can train and effectively arm a body of men for purposes such as this, what might she not do in defence of the country against an enemy whose obvious aim is profit at Russia's expense?

It might be imagined from the nature of the Bolshevik Manifesto that there was absolute identity of aim between the Allies and the Central Powers, since the "Holy War" is proclaimed against the middle classes of both groups of nations. But what more do the Socialists of Russia desire than the achievement of the ideals to which both Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson have recently openly subscribed? The fulfilment of those aims will inevitably mean the abandonment of all conquest, aggrandisement and secret diplomacy; a large measure of disarmament; fair treatment of all peoples, great or small; and the creation of a general association of nations for the purpose of preserving universal peace. That is a programme which ought to satisfy the most ardent Socialist, and it is one that could not possibly emanate from the Central Powers. The Allies are in very truth fighting the battles of Democracy. Their cause is the cause of the People. That being so, it is the sincerest nonsense for the Russian ex-remnants to banish the Allies and the Austro-Germans together and regard both as wicked foes. If ever a nation had cause for praying to be saved from itself, that nation is Russia to-day.

A Reverend Maligner.

The Rev. the Hon. Edward Lytleton, D.D., who, as is fairly generally known, has been making himself of late somewhat notorious by remarks on various subjects containing more sound than sense—and one little budget of which practically cost him his post as Headmaster of Eton—has seen fit to make a most scurrilous attack on the Press. The report on which we base this statement will be found in another part of this issue. It is reproduced from the London Daily Telegraph, which, in a sub-headline, refers to the reverend gentleman's statement as "a remarkable speech." It is more than that—it is a mendacious, thoughtless and absolutely indefensible piece of twaddle, uttered by one who had not the faintest idea of what the great institution which he was foolishly maligning stands for. We are taking the reverend gentleman seriously, and we are in consequence assuming that he is referring to the Press as a whole and not to a section of it. This reverend and honourable gentleman says in effect that as newspapers are "commercial products" they are more concerned about those things which make for increased circulation rather than for the publication of facts. They want "sensations," he further states.

The Truth.

Now, without wasting more time and space over this mischievous maligner, we will merely state that if there is one thing more than another which dominates the conductors of British newspapers it is their ardent desire to present facts; and it would very much astonish most readers, we imagine, if they knew how much care is taken by newspaper men to obtain veracity and accuracy of statement—often, indeed, only to be obtained at the cost of much time and trouble.

That is an absolutely true statement in regard to every British newspaper of national or local importance—which does not degrade its high and honourable mission, just as in much the same way as some reverend gentlemen, forgetful of the noble ideal that animates their high calling, are foolish enough sometimes to make a statement that can only appeal to people as thoughtless and ill-informed as themselves. The newspaper that preferred printing lies to facts would soon be a bankrupt concern.

The Sinking of the Rewa.

The German "explanation" of the sinking of the hospital ship Rewa is a characteristic piece of Teutonic quibbling and contradiction. In the first place, we are told that no definite statement can be made on the subject, "as the submarine possibly concerned is still at sea." That is quite reasonable so far as it goes, for we can well understand that the German Government has not yet received any report from the commander of the submarine which committed the deplorable outrage. But when we are told that "competent quarters" consider it impossible that the ship was torpedoed, and that it must have been mined, we should very much like to know on what this statement is based. If the views expressed by these "competent" people are correct, why do the Germans mention any submarine as being "possibly concerned?" The only people who can back up their statement by direct evidence are those who were on the ship, and these state that the vessel was torpedoed. More than that, we have the official statement that there were no mines at the spot where the Rewa was sunk. We may be pardoned, therefore, if we prefer to accept the British facts rather than the German imaginings.

Returned Banishment Charged.

A Chinese, who have been banished for five years in 1914, was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with the larceny of a cap and also with returning from banishment before his term had expired. The case was adjourned until Thursday morning.

DAY BY DAY.

THERE IS NOTHING THAT THE WORKING CLASSES OBJECT TO MORE THAN THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO "TAKE AN INTEREST IN THEM."—Mr. F. G. Kellaway.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the anniversary of the opening of the British Museum (1759).

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$s. 05/8d.

Opium Possession.
A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court, this morning, with possessing two tael of opium. The defendant was arrested on the Wing Lok Wharf with the opium in two small tins tied round his legs. His Worship imposed a fine of \$150, or two months' hard labour.

Dock Theft.
A poorly-dressed Chinese was, before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning, charged with stealing two port hole fastenings, from a ship at Hunghom Dock. A previous conviction was proved and his Worship sentenced the man to three months' hard labour and four hours' stroke.

Fish Dealer in Trouble.
A fish dealer charged a man before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Magistracy this morning, with stealing a quantity of fish valued at \$4. It appeared that the fish were in a basket below a wharf, and included several garpops, which are valuable fish. The defendant was seen to pull the basket up and take the fish out. His Worship sent him to prison for three weeks with hard labour.

War Comforts.
"Our Little Bit" Society have to-day sent to Messrs. Shewan Tomes & Co., two cases of war comforts to be forwarded to Hon. Superintendent, Red Cross Depot, No. 2 Shed, Alexandra Dock, Bombay, containing 976 roller bandages, 120 flannel vests, 150 suits pyjamas, 43 white woollen hosiery, 91 white woollen caps, 30 pairs white woollen bed socks, 3 quilts, 3 pillows, 30 pairs slippers, 7 floor cloths, 1 lot magazines. The Society also sent to Captain Cassel in December last, for distribution to local troops, 120 khaki handkerchiefs.

\$5,000 Bail.
The concubine of a Chinese, living in Hongkong, was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with the larceny of money, jewellery and clothing, valued at over \$4,500. The facts alleged against the woman were that she absconded from the man in 1916, taking the articles with her. She was only arrested on Saturday. "Mr. Crow" appeared to prosecute and Mr. Leo D'Almada defended. The case was adjourned until Wednesday morning; bail being fixed at \$5,000.

One of a Gang.
A Chinese youth, when charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with the unlawful possession of a gold-mounted rattan bangle, frankly admitted that he had stolen it from a little girl whilst on a boat at Macao. He said he had come to Hongkong to pawn it; but the pawnbroker refused to take it in. Inspector Brown said that the defendant was one of a gang of youths who went between here and Macao, and who were a perfect pest. Two previous convictions were admitted by the defendant, who was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour. His Worship stated that he would recommend that defendant be banished.

A Tale of Three Chickens.
An Indian watchman figured as the defendant in a case of larceny, which was heard by Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning. A Chinese woman, living in High Street, alleged that she missed three chickens on Sunday morning and informed the police. Later, when she was passing the defendant's house, she saw her chicken with others. They had had their wings and tails clipped. The defendant stoutly denied that the chicken were his companions. This charge was brought against him in revenge, for he had had to turn the woman's children out of his house. His Worship did not think the watchman guilty, and dismissed the case.

"WHAT THING."

A New Singapore Annual.

Under the facetious and arresting title of "What Thing" (a phrase well-known to all who understand "pidgin English") two Singapore journalists, Messrs P. Inglis and W. Arthur Wilson, formerly associated with Hongkong newspapers—have issued for the Christmas and New Year an Annual which they doubtless intend to make of the "hardy" variety as each Christmas and New Year season comes round. Copies are now to hand, and are on sale at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, whose Singapore branch printed and published the Annual in question.

In "What Thing" we have a miscellanea collection of poetry and prose, suitable for the time at which it is proposed to publish it, and of a character rather above the average in quality, compared with what one may occasionally read in newspapers or indeed in publications similar to those of this new Annual. The contributors—seven in number—wield a facile pen and, in practically all of the articles, give evidence of literary talent above the average. The principal contributors are Mr. Roland Braddell, whose well-known Singapore barriester, and whose graceful verses are gratefully acknowledged by the Editors of the Annual; "G. S. Kemp" and W. A. Wilson, who contribute most of the prose articles. Mr. Braddell's poems are exquisite little gems of thought and feeling. We should like to deal with them in detail, but as space will not permit of us doing so, we must content ourselves by saying that of the dozen or more poems he contributes we like best his eight-line verse entitled "Love," which, as it seems to us such a perfect little poem, we will herewith reproduce it:—

When songs are done, their singer
No echo haunts the silence of his lute,
When flowers are gone, their petals
No breeze can trace the linger of their scent.
For age refresh with no tear,
The scattered roses of yester-year.
But love alone knows naught of death.
Its song, its scent are life's own living breath.

This and Mr. Braddell's poems entitled "Moon" and "The Deux Amis" seem to us to be his best contributions. The others are likewise extremely good. In the variety enough to meet many tastes. There are several articles in quite choice English, some in the Scottish dialect and one in what is unmistakably the homely vernacular of Yorkshire. All of them are good, all well-worth reading, not only because of the interesting incidents that are narrated, but because of the artistic treatment, particularly evident in the work of the Editors, whose introductory Note, by the way, is exceedingly happy. Mr. Wilson's article entitled "On Being 'Clever,'" "Somersetshire's" article entitled "A Time Exposure," and "G. S. Kemp's" contribution entitled "The Comments of Andra" (which we believe is a continuation of a series under the same title which appeared in the South China Morning Post some years ago) are all extremely well done. Other features are "The Cozening of Costard" by Canberr Woodville Harrison; "A Perfect Core," by P. I.; "Sarah's Choice" by "G. S. Kemp;" "The Tyke Abroad" by W. A. W.; and "The Romantic East," by Raymond A. Theobald.

In the foregoing we have but given a mere outline of the many good things in Singapore's new annual "What Thing," but we trust we have said sufficient to indicate that it is well worth the price asked for it—one dollar only. The Annual is handsomely got up, being printed on quarto page with ample margins. The type is good and well-chosen and the paper is likewise of excellent quality. Copies of "What Thing" may now, as already stated, be obtained from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Hongkong, and we take pleasure in heartily commending it to our readers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

ANOTHER ROBBERY NEAR CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—Through the space of your valuable columns, I beg to report that another daring robbery took place in a village about seven miles beyond the Tong-Tan-Ha Railway Station, and in the neighbourhood of the devastated Chin Ki market town. On the night of the 7th inst. about one hundred robbers, well armed, attacked the said village. As the watchers of the village could not withstand the attack, the marauders ransacked every house, one villager was shot to death, one boy was kidnapped and twelve bullocks were driven away, the estimate of the total loss being about ten thousand dollars. Owing to the slackness in the office of the Tung Koon Magistrate, in not taking up the matter of the recent robberies promptly, these outlaws foresee that the officials cannot overpower them, and they take this advantage to become more bold and then put the district under their power. The inhabitants are crying out for help from the authorities, but without avail.

The district of Chin Ki has never suffered such a miserable time in history as it now is suffering. If the Magistrate of Tung Koon would follow the example of his predecessors in putting down these offenders as quickly as possible, such outrages could not recur. The District Officer hitherto stationed at Tong-Tan-Ha market town is practically useless. Highway robberies have been taking place nearly every day during the past few months only half a mile away and the officer takes no steps to protect the road. These highway outlaws continually plunder the merchandise being carried back to Chin Kai Market town and the traders and the Chamber of Commerce cannot keep on suffering such heavy losses. Last week they hired half a dozen men to patrol the road for the benefit of the public. As suggested in my previous letter, published in your valuable paper of the 2nd inst., if the officials were to despatch about 200 soldiers under a capable commander to be stationed at Tong-Tan-Ha and Chin Kai Market towns to protect the district, and whenever the whereabouts of the robber's dens are reported immediate steps were taken to destroy the same without delay, and also to effect the arrest of the outlaws as quickly as possible, then the people would enjoy peace and be happy. If this suggestion is not carried out before the Chinese New Year, I fear that more serious robberies will come to light during the season. I hope the Military Governor and the Civil Governor of Canton will take on this important matter more seriously, and immediately give instructions to the Tung Koon Magistrate to do his utmost to carry out his duty.

Thanking you for the publication of the above.
Yours etc,
L. F. W.
Hongkong, 13th January, 1918.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Orders issued by Mr. E. Balph state:—
Y.M.C.A. Division.
Tuesday, January 15th.—8 p.m. Squad and stretcher drill.
Thursday, January 17th.—8 p.m. Squad and stretcher drill.
Queen's College Division.
"A" Section.
Thursday, January 17th.—12.0 p.m. Bandaging practice.
Friday, January 18th.—4.20 p.m. Squad and stretcher drill.
"B" Section.
Monday, January 14th.—4.20 p.m. Bandaging practice.
Tuesday, January 15th.—4.20 p.m. Squad drill.
Thursday, January 17th.—4.20 p.m. First Aid class.
Friday, January 18th.—4.20 p.m. Squad drill.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Horace Walpole, who was born two hundred years ago, would probably have cared little what people said about him so long as they read what he wrote, and of that species of appreciation he seems secure. Monday might say he was a gentleman under at heart, but the great historian could never deny he was interesting. Like ourselves, too, Walpole longed for peace in the midst of war. "You may imagine that I am anxious to have the peace," he writes to Sir Horace Mann in 1782. "I wish it privately and publicly. I pray for an end to the woes of mankind; in one word, I have no public spirit, and don't care a farthing for the interests of the merchants. Soldiers and sailors who are knocked on the head, and peasants plundered and butchered, are to my eyes as valuable as a lazy, luxurious set of men who hire others to acquire riches for them, who would embroil all the earth that they may heap or squander; and I dare to say this, for I am no Minister." One has to remember in reading these remarkable sentiments that, though Walpole sat in Parliament during thirteen years of war, he never entered a word or gave a vote tending to peace.

Many Scottish and Cornish fishermen engaged in the Manx herring fishery are so strict in regard to Sunday observance that they remain in port from Saturday morning to Monday afternoon so as to avoid sailing to the fishing grounds or landing fish on Sundays. English fishermen resent the loss of two nights' fishing and have attempted this autumn to break through the custom. A Fleetwood boat which put to sea soon after midnight on a recent Sunday returned with a good catch, but buyers looked on the fish as Sunday caught, and at first refused to handle them. Eventually the herring found purchasers at a fair price.

It is interesting to read the part that Robert Fulton, the inventor of the submarine, thought his new kind of war-vessel would play in the future story of the Navy. In letter to William Pitt in 1809, quoted by the *Atlantic Monthly*, he wrote: "I will not disguise that I have full confidence in the power which I possess, which is no less than to be means, should I think proper, of giving to the world a system which must of necessity sweep all military marines from the ocean, by giving the weaker maritime Powers advantages over the stronger, which the stronger cannot prevent." A prophetic challenge, indeed!

Do the Russians realize that in their interminable discussions they are following in the footsteps of a Prussian Parliament which ought to have given us a Prussia as free as England, and so have prevented this war? In the revolutionary year of 1848 a Prussian assembly, with a terrified king backing it up, abolished the law of Divine Right; it abolished the Prussian nobility and junkerdom. But it wasted so long on trivialities that the king grew bold again, called in soldiers, flung the assembly into the street, and riveted afresh the fetters on the nation's neck. If Russia but knew...

A fine old crusted character in Warwick was Mr. Ferdinand Arkwright, who was "tall and thin, wore whiskers, and stammered," and "favoured a bottle green coat with brass buttons, a very large neck cloth, and a big white hat." He had lived long in Malta, and was a friend of the Duke of Edinburgh. His special characteristic was imperturbability. You couldn't put him out. Once at the Governor's Ball at Malta he called his partner's attention to a man with a blue birthmark on his cheek, and made some jest about it. "How dare you talk like that sir!" snapped his angry partner; "that gentleman is my husband." "Then why you can't tell me," responded Mr. Arkwright joyfully, "it is a b-b-b-blue all right."

LOCAL SPORT.

FOOTBALL.

LEAGUE-DIV. 1.

Royal Engineers v. H. K. Football Club.

Played on the Club Ground on Saturday last, the teams being as follows:

R. E.—Clarke, Blumfield, Lucas, Charters, Smith, White, Strange, Townsend, Gordon, Horlop, Pascall.

Club.—Goldenberg, Ove, McOabbie, Balston, Stewart, Rodgers, Grimmett, Chasselle, Gerrard, McTavish, Wood.

Referee.—Mr. Wright.

This is the first time these teams have met this season, and the Club supporters had great hopes that their favourites would break the unbeaten record of the Sappers. This, however, was not to be, as the latter were in very fine form, and, as the score indicates, were the better team. Play was somewhat even for the first ten minutes, but from that point onwards it was rare that the Club looked dangerous. The Sappers' outside left opened the scoring with a lovely shot which gave Goldenberg no chance, and shortly afterwards Gordon registered the second from a fine pass by Strange. The latter was receiving special attention from the Club defence, but for all that, not less than three goals came from his centres. The Club forwards made many efforts to get within shooting range, but the Sappers' defence was very sound, the half-backs being a tower of strength. Just before half-time, Pascall scored a third goal. Half time:—R. E., 3; Club, 0.

In the second half, McOabbie and Ove changed places, but this was of little avail, as two more goals followed in quick succession, Pascall registering his third point of the match, and Horlop making his first score of the season with a fine fast drive. This was the extent of the scoring, the Club defence holding their own until the end. Result:—R. E., 5; Club, 0.

Comments.—Although the Sappers won by five clear goals, there was not all that difference between the two teams, but, at the same time, undoubtedly the better team won.

The Club forwards worked hard to reduce the score, but were up against a stiff proposition in the R. E. halves. The elusive Pascall was quite an artist at outside left, his work being very effective.

LEAGUE-DIV. 2.

South China Athletic v. 88th Co. R.G.A.

Played on the Club Ground on Saturday. Much interest was centred in this game, as both teams are well up in the League table, and a very keen contest was anticipated.

As usual, the South China Athletic had a large crowd of followers, who showed great excitement when their favourites scored the first goal. Play was of an even character throughout, but the Chinese showed more finish, their combination being much better. Half-time:—South China Athletic, 2; 88th Co. R.G.A., 0.

It was well into the second half ere the Gunners reduced the lead, and by a great effort they drew level shortly before the whistle sounded for time. Result:—2 all.

83rd Co. R. G. A. v. St. Joseph's College.

Played on the Navy Ground and resulted in an easy win for the College by 4 goals to nil. 83rd Co. were no match for their opponents, who were much faster on the ball and thoroughly deserved their victory. Play was not of a very interesting character, most of the play being in the Gunners' half. This win now places the College in a favourable position in the League table.

Navy v. R.G.A.

Played on the Navy Ground on Saturday. Teams:—Navy.—Crick, Biggs, Coaker, Cobbs, Smith, Lutton, Travis, Llewellyn, Clark, Newcombe, Cope.

R. G. A.—Taylor, Grettton, Dickson, Tallford, Hall, Gore, Youngman, Edgeler, Saunders, Baxter, Turner.

Referee.—Lieut. Attwell.

The Navy were unable to turn out at full strength owing to various duties, but they put up a good game against the Gunners, although the latter were much the better team on the day's play. In the first half, the Gunners' inside right gave them the lead, the same player adding another in the second half. Nothing further was scored, the game ending in a win for the R.G.A. by two goals to love.

For the Navy, Coaker at back and Clarke at centre played a good game. The former was severely tested, but came through the ordeal with flying colours.

There is no doubt that Tallford is a very fine half, and it is very rare he makes a mistake. Townsend and Green were noticeable absentees from the Gunners' team.

CRICKET.

Royal Engineers v. H.K.C.C. These teams met on the Club ground, the result being a win for the same side. The Engineers were first at the wickets and were all accounted for at 102 in the last three men doing no scoring. Major Morgan bowled with good effect. The Club did not open too strongly and eight wickets were down for 96. Donnelly came well to the rescue and was highest scorer with a well-played 62. Scores:—

Royal Engineers.			
Sgt. McGregor, l.b.w., b	24		
Morgan	6		
Cpl. Adams, c and b Morgan	8		
C.Q.M.S. Beakes, c Donnelly, b Morgan	15		
S. S. Crippwell, c Murray, b	14		
Donnelly	10		
Spr. Waller, b Donnelly	10		
Lt. Wahl, b Morgan	10		
Spr. Millard, b Morgan	12		
Cpl. Heath, not out	7		
S. M. Jewsbury, c Donnelly, b Morgan	0		
Spr. Bell, c Murray, b Donnelly	0		
2nd Cpl. Way, run out	0		
Extras	4		
Total	102		

Bowling.			
O.	M.	R.	W.
Donnelly	13	1	48
Morgan	13	1	50

H.K.C.C.

H. E. Mariel, c Waller, b	38		
Beakes	10		
T. E. Pearce, b Beakes	10		
Capt. E. H. Gray, c Way, b	23		
Beakes	8		
Lt. H. E. Murray, b Beakes	8		
F. Syme Thomson, c Millard, b McGregor	2		
R. H. Thorsfield, c Jewsbury, b Crippwell	3		
H. E. Holland, c Wahl, b	0		
Beakes	0		
Lt. Col. Morgan, b Crippwell	1		
D. E. Donnelly, b Beakes	62		
F. Sutton, not out	23		
P. Jacks, b Waller	19		
Extras	7		
Total	196		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Beakes	13	2	70
Crippwell	8	0	51
McGregor	2	0	23
Adams	4	0	35
Waller	1	0	10

Kowloon v. R. G. A.

Playing at home, Kowloon managed to secure a draw in this match. The Gunners batted first and scored 149, Kowloon responding with 123 for nine wickets. The match was not particularly interesting, except for Kowloon's effort to avoid defeat. Scores:—

R. G. A.			
Br. Athorne, b Pestonji	6		
Br. Dix, b Pestonji	19		
Br. Drummond, c Cobb, b	28		
Stalker	19		
Gnr. Perkins, c Robinson, b	19		
Stalker	18		
Lieut. Wilkinson, b Pestonji	8		
Lieut. Baker, b Pestonji	13		
Gnr. Baines, run out	1		
Gnr. Mann, run out	1		
C. Q. M. S. Ross, b Pestonji	7		
Br. Armistys, c Sousa, b	7		
Pestonji	5		
Gnr. Smith, not out	18		
Extras	18		
Total	146		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Cobb	14	3	48
Pestonji	18	0	51
Stalker	8	0	32

K. C. C.

J. Stalker, c Dix, b Baines	28		
E. Wheeler, c Perkins, b	23		
Athorne	11		
F. E. Jossland, c Baines, b	11		
Athorne	11		

Total

148			
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L. J. Blackburn, b Baines	0		
J. P. Robinson, c Armistys, b	16		
Athorne	0		
L. E. S. Hodge, c Armistys, b	0		
Athorne	23		
C. J. Stapleton, not out	4		
P. H. Cobb, c Ross, b Baines	4		
A. De Sousa, c Mann, b	0		
Athorne	0		
R. Pestonji, c Armistys, b	10		
Baines	0		
J. H. Mead, not out	10		
Extras	10		
Total	124		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Athorne	14	2	55
Baker	2	0	15
Baines	12	1	43

C. R. C. v. Navy.

In this match, the Navy opened rather badly, but Wright and Oary made a stand, scoring 60 and 32 respectively. The side was out for 141. The C. R. C. made a very poor show, Ng Sze-yuen alone coping with the bowling. Commander Gibson took six wickets for 20 runs, and the C. R. C. were all disposed of for 71. Scores:—

Navy.			
Sgt. Hack, b Un Hew Fan	5		
Lieut. F. Thompson, b Un	5		
Hew Fan	3		
Com. Gibson, b Yew Man	60		
Tsun	32		
Payr. Wright, b Un Hew Fan	60		
A. B. Henley, b Ng Sze	8		
Kwong	4		
S. Lt. Oary, l.b.w., b Yew	32		
Man Tsun	8		
As. Payr. Wild, b Un Hew	8		
Fan	9		
As. Payr. Robinson, b Un Hew	9		
Fan	3		
W. Staley, b Yew Man Tsun	9		
Pte. Stacy, not out	1		
Lg. S. Godfrey, b Un Hew Fan	4		
Extras	4		
Total	141		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Un Hew Fan	16	5	53
Yew Man Tsun	12	0	60
Ng Sze Kwong	3	0	24

C. R. C.

Ng Sze Yuen, c Staley, b	20		
Godfrey	9		
Ho Wing Kin, b Godfrey	9		
Ng Sze Kwong, b Gibson	6		
Yew Man Tsun, l.b.w., b	0		
Gibson	1		
H. Ching, b Gibson	0		
Un Hew Fan, b Gibson	0		
G. Lee, b Gibson	0		
Wai Lee San, b Godfrey	0		
J. Wong, b Gibson	3		
C. Choa, not out	9		
Kwok Shin Yau, c Godfrey, b	2		
Hack	12		
Extras	12		
Total	71		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Gibson	15	4	20
Henley	5	1	18
Godfrey	9	1	21
Hack	0	3	0

Craigengower v. Middlesex.

This match resulted in a win for Craigengower, who scored 33 runs more than their opponents, with two wickets in hand. Scores:—

Middlesex.			
Tebbutt, c Graham, b Grimmett	1		
Smith, c Pitt, b Graham	7		
Batterworth, c Norris, b	10		
Graham	1		
Capt. Smith, b Graham	1		
Lieut. Cooper, b Graham	0		
Lieut. Dickenson, not out	32		
Capt. Padfield, b Grimmett	5		
Parnell, b Graham	43		
Woodward, b Graham	0		
Fawthrop, b Graham	6		
Grove, b Graham	0		
Extras	10		
Total	115		

Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Graham	18	1	51
Grimmett	13	3	42
Abbas	3	0	12

Craigengower.

R. Bais, c Tebbutt, b Cooper	5		
J. D. Norris, c Fawthrop, b	17		
Tebbutt	74		
M. Abbas, c Fawthrop, b	8		
Tebbutt	25		
T. Ford, b Cooper	1		
J. Graham, c Tebbutt, b Bat-	1		
terworth	1		
F. Thompson, c Batterworth, b	1		
Cooper	2		
W. Edwards, b Smith	2		
T. Pitt, c Tebbutt, b Cooper	2		
F. Schaepe, not out	2		
D. Kharas and A. W. Grim-	7		
mett did not bat	7		
Extras	7		
Total	148		

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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Bowling.

O.	M.	R.	W.
Cooper	13	4	64
Tebbutt	14	0	36
Parnell	4	0	25
Smith	5	1	13
Batterworth	2	0	3

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

A MEETING of the St. George's Society will be held on MONDAY 26th January, at 5.30 P.M. in the Board Room of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. (kindly lent for the occasion).

BUSINESS.

- (1) To pass the accounts for 1917.
- (2) To arrange for the celebration of St. George's Day 1918.
- (3) To elect a Committee and Officers for 1918.

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No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. No Claim will be recognised after the Goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where they will be examined on the 21st January, at 10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised if filed after the 27th January, 1918.

T. DAIGO,

Agent.

Hongkong, 13th January, 1918.

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SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Kamo Maru Capt. Shimidzu	T. 16,000 Feb. at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Slyo Maru Capt. Takano	T. 12,500 Feb. at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama	Aki Maru Capt. Yoshikawa	T. 12,500 Jan. at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Shimada Maru Capt. Doki	T. 8,000 26th Jan.
SHANGHAI and Kobe	Bombay Maru Capt. Tsuruza	T. 8,000 21st Jan.
SHANGHAI and Kobe	Tenshin Maru Capt. Taniguchi	T. 8,000 24th Jan.

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SHANGHAI	Sunning	19th Jan. at 3 p.m.

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Haihong	J. W. Evans	FRI., 18th Jan., at noon.

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SHANGHAI	Kingsing	Fri., 18th Jan. at 4 p.m.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 18th Jan. at 3 p.m.
HAIPHONG	Taksang	Tues., 22nd Jan. at 7 a.m.
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Tues., 22nd Jan. at noon.
MANILA	Loongsang	Thur., 25th Jan. at 3 p.m.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Defence Against Submarines.

A highly-placed authority in the French Navy, questioned by a representative of the "Matin" on the subject of defence against submarine attack, has replied as follows:—"Our submarine listening-microphones have been perfected to a degree which we would never have ventured to hope for only a few weeks ago—a progress which is proved by the rewards bestowed by Admiral Chaumet, the Minister of Marine, on the brilliant officers, Lieutenants Broglie, Frommager, and wailer, who have so successfully devoted themselves to such inventions. Once they are supplied with the devices all ships will soon be able to recognise the presence of a submarine, its distance, and its direction, and can then manoeuvre so to avoid it, while, on the other hand, the gunboats and scouting vessels can at the same time take up the pursuit. That is why the British naval authorities are confident. And we, too, have good grounds for hope."

The United States Shipping Problem.

The following extracts from an interview given by Lord Northcliffe to the "United Press," emphasise the seriousness of the transport problem as it affects the whole of the Allies:—"The most urgent news that has crossed the Atlantic since I arrived in this country at the beginning of June," Lord Northcliffe said, "is the official statement by Sir Joseph Maclay, the British Controller of Shipping, to the effect that 'unless the United States faces the shipping problem and constructs 6,000,000 tons of shipping annually the military efforts of the United States will be crippled from the start.' This is the solemn warning of Sir Joseph himself. It has passed the Censor. Set aside all German boasting. Put away from you the idea that Great Britain, who is increasing her own food production, can be starved out. The writing on the wall should arouse every thinking American to the greatest problem the world has ever faced—the transport across 3,000 miles of water of the new American Army, which already amounts to more than a million men, its cannon, shells, locomotives, railway track, munition plants, aeroplanes, observation balloons, hospitals, ambulance convoys, doctors, nurses, machine gun, butchers, bakers, shoemakers, men of every trade, railroad engineers, interpreters, organisers, and distributors of stores, clothing, horses, mules, fodder, bookkeepers, and complete telephone and telegraph equipments with operators running into thousands. Now, Sir Joseph Maclay, as the British Shipping Controller, plainly says that unless 6,000,000 tons of shipping is built in the United States yearly you will not be able to transport those vital needs. You ask me if I agree with Sir Joseph. I do not profess to have any of the technical knowledge of shipping of the hard-headed Scotsman who was chosen by the Premier, Mr. Lloyd George, for a task that is much more difficult than even that of the Food Controller—the control of shipping that is being sunk more rapidly than it is being constructed, and that, mark you, at a time when the demand for shipping, owing to the transport needs of the United States Army, is increasing daily. But nothing that has happened alters my conviction that the combined shipyards of the Allies and their combined navies must make a superhuman effort to overcome the losses and meet the growing demand as to Atlantic transport to-day. The whole system of publishing figures of submarine sinkings by the Allies is misleading, and I have protested against it ever since it was adopted. I do not believe that any substantial progress has been made in stopping submarine depredations. Last week we were told off daily that the submarine sinkings of British ships were the lightest since the policy of ruthlessness commenced. Within a few hours cables flashed the news that the sinkings of the French ships over the same period were the heaviest yet recorded. In other words, it is probable that a part of the submarine force of Germany that is fighting the greatest naval battle of the world off the south coast of Ireland was sent to the French coast to stop the arrival of urgent necessities from America for your daily growing Army."

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EUROPEAN SERGEANT
MURDERED.

Hongkong Police Officer Found
Shot at Wanchai.

A sensational affair occurred at Wanchai in the early hours of Sunday morning. Sergeant Johnson, of the Hongkong Police Force, being found shot in Queen's Road East. Later according to the injury he had received. The circumstances leave no room for doubt that he was murdered.

It appears that a Lukong, who was on patrol duty, found the deceased just after three o'clock lying in an unconscious condition, with a severe bullet wound in the head. He at once gave the alarm, and the injured Sergeant was conveyed as soon as possible to the Government Civil Hospital, where he expired just after being admitted.

A good deal of mystery surrounds the tragedy, for no trace of the assailant has been discovered. It is conjectured that the shot has been fired at fairly close range.

It appears that, at the time, the street where deceased was found was practically deserted. All that is known is that a Chinese shopkeeper heard a report and on rushing out saw a man running away. It was shortly afterwards that the deceased was found lying in the road, with a bullet wound behind the right ear. Deceased's own revolver was loaded and intact in its pouch.

Deceased, who was about 24 years of age, came to the Colony from Scotland some three years ago. He was unmarried. During his residence here he became very popular with his comrades and was well liked as a steady and conscientious officer. This funeral passes the Monument at 4.45 p.m. to-day.

A European Arrested.
There was a sensational development in the case to-day, a European being arrested in connection with the affair. He will probably be formally charged to-morrow at the Police Court.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. O. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.), state:—
Musketry Course—Part I.

The following will attend on Sunday next, January 20:—
Leave Blake Pier 9.0 a.m.—To

Fire.—All members of Nos. 3 & 4 Platoons who have not yet fired. Also the whole of No. 9 Section. Also Inspector Ribeiro and Crown Sgt. F. A. Rosario. As Registrar-Keepers:—Chief Inspector Lammert and Staff Inspectors Aroulli, Clarke, Fothergill, Watt and Taylor.

Leave Blake Pier 1.30 p.m.—To Fire.—Whole of No. 10 Section, and part of No. 11 Section to be detailed by Section Commanders. Also Inspector Botelho and Crown Sgt. J. M. Rosario. As Registrar-Keepers:—Staff Inspectors Potter and Wildin, Inspector Gegg, Sgt. Accountant Bales and Crown Sgt. Ford and Goodwin.

Route March.
All ranks, except those on Patrol duty on that date, will parade at Central Station at 5.30 p.m. sharp on Thursday, January 17. Helmets will be worn. Inspectors will wear belts and swords and helmet chains down. The Ambulance Platoon will parade with stretchers.

Band.
The Band Practice ordered for Friday, January 18, is cancelled.

A Family Quarrel.

Charged with assaulting another, a coolie told Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Magistracy this morning, that he wanted to take the complainant's daughter out but was refused permission, when a quarrel arose. It appears that the complainant, who lives in Shanghai Street, Yamati, went to the Police Station on Saturday night, suffering from a cut on the head and some badly damaged fingers. Sergeant Murphy said he appeared to be under the influence of drink. His complaint was that the defendant had pushed him down the stairs. His Worship thought it was a family quarrel and bound the defendant over to be of good behaviour for six months.

TRENCH SURGERY.

New Methods for New Ways
of Warfare.

Writing in the *Daily Chronicle*, Dr. Wood's Hutchinson, says:—

Trench surgery is just as different from earlier war surgery as trench fighting is from the former art and science of war. For 20 years past, Army surgeons have been priding themselves on the fact that war surgery was coming nearer and nearer the standard of cleanliness, and certainly of results of peace-time surgery.

Clean wounds and quick healing are coming to be the rule in canvas-covered field hospitals as in the white-tiled, glass-roofed temples of healing at home. And when this war broke out, we prepared our operating kits in full and blissful confidence that this onward and upward course would be continued and even brought nearer the goal of complete asepsis and no pus or visible scars.

But a bitter awakening was in store for us; within three weeks of mud and shell-fire, we had slumped back 30 years in our surgical methods and problems, and had to begin all over, again, almost from where Lister did.

And the fierce ancient battle between asepsis and anti-sepsis broke out afresh, and raged with fury.

Almost the whole trend of development in modern weapons and armament seemed to be heading towards making the wounds inflicted more and more nearly germ-free or aseptic.

The high velocity rifle bullets, for instance, were driven through the grooves of the rifle barrel at such enormous pressure and friction that their surfaces were literally sterilised by heat, and unless they happened to strike the ground first and "ricochet," entered the body almost as clean and aseptic as a surgeon's knife in the operating theatre. Further than this, instead of being round or dome-shaped, they were pencil shaped and pointed, and their nose or tip so sharp and smooth and polished that it was almost impossible for it to catch threads or scraps of the clothing and carry them into the wound, with it which was a very serious form of deep infection in the days of round bullets, or even of sword and sabre cuts.

So important indeed was it that soldiers were required to take a bath and put on clean underwear the night or morning before going into action, so that if any scraps of clothing were carried into the wound they would be as clean and free from germs as possible. I saw two cases in French hospitals, in which one single pocket of a huge shell wound kept on obstinately discharging and refusing to heal for weeks after the rest of the wound was closed. Finally a radical operation was decided upon and a free incision made right down from the surface, laying open the pocket, and in one case a scrap of cloth from the patient's tunic was discovered, and in the other a larger rag, with a button, still attached to it.

Furthermore, these high-velocity bullets at average ranges were still whirling swiftly when they struck and literally drilled their way through the tissues so cleanly and smoothly that unless they struck a bone or penetrated the heart or a big blood-vessel or the brain or spinal cord, they did astonishingly little damage and the wounds healed surprisingly quickly and kindly.

In fact, cold-blooded military experts were actually advising against the use of high velocity or pencil-shaped bullets in wars against savage or barbarous tribes, because they simply would not stop a rush. A charging Zulu or Somali warrior, for instance, might be drilled through with half a dozen bullets without stopping him or even checking his onrush, unless one of them happened to strike a big vessel or the spinal cord. While the shock of the old-fashioned leaden or soft-nosed bullet, which would spread and mushroom the moment it struck a bone or even a tough tendon would usually knock him down and put him out of the fight at once, even if it did not kill him.

Bullet wounds, whether rifle or machine-gun, in this war, are regarded almost as a trifle providing that they have not struck a

AIR RAID DAMAGE.

Compensation for Loss up to £500.

The Government's new scheme of compensation for air raid damage was explained in the House of Commons recently by Mr. Bonar Law.

He said that a scheme had been prepared to give owners of property not exceeding \$500 in value compensation for damage done by air raids and bombardment without payment of any premium. Owners of property exceeding \$500 value would be compensated up to \$500 without payment of premium, provided that property in excess of that amount was insured under the Government insurance scheme. The new scheme was to take effect as from September 1.

Arrangements for the prompt settlement of claims were being made.

Mr. Butler:—Will the insurance companies be compelled to adjust their premiums in accordance with the right hon. gentleman's declaration?

Mr. Bonar Law:—I think so.

Mr. Peto:—Does the right hon. gentleman really mean that existing anti-aircraft policies should be reduced by \$500 in order to render the concession effective?

Mr. Bonar Law:—That is the effect of the announcement I have made.

ing that they have not struck a bone or an artery or a nerve trunk, or perforated the intestines. Time and again, when watching the dressing of some hideous, still gaping shell wound, I have noticed little circular brownish scabs, about the size of a dime, with a reddish ring round them on the arm, shoulder, hip, or leg of the patient.

These puzzled me at first, because they did not look just like surface wounds or burns of any sort, and they were evidently not boils—until I inquired and discovered on inquiring that they were the scars of bullet wounds which had drilled right through the limb or the fleshy part of the shoulder or hip, and were now practically healed and dry—five, seven, nine days after they had been inflicted.

In that sense, as also in the sense that less than 15 per cent. of the wounds of this war are bullet wounds, and two-thirds of them from machine-guns, the rifle has almost ceased to be a deadly weapon.

As for the sword-wounds and bayonet wounds—well, swords have become pretty nearly parlor ornaments in modern war, and bayonet wounds, while dangerous on account of their depth and their narrowness, which prevents thorough drainage, are not very likely to be infected, because, as recent tests have shown, germs of any sort cannot thrive or live long upon polished metal surfaces.

Besides, for some singular reason, bayonet wounds have become the rarest surgical curiosities in this war.

One surgeon-inspector-general, in charge of three armies, with whom I was visiting the field hospitals, told me that he had seen exactly four cases of bayonet wounds since the war began, and he had been in it from the Battle of the Marne. And one of those cases was a spy, who had suddenly been discovered in the fighting line in a French uniform, and who had been promptly perforated like a pin-cushion, "and yet he did live," said the inspector, with a smile and a shrug.

Another division surgeon, of two years' experience, told me that he had only seen four, and that one of these was in the leg of an officer who, leading a charge and leaping down into an enemy front line trench, spiked himself on the point of a rifle with fixed bayonet, which had been left standing against the wall of the trench.

And these are samples of the experience of surgeons in both armies on the Western front. The scarcity of bayonet wounds is almost incredible, even after allowing for the fact that this is so overwhelmingly a war of artillery, and especially as both newspapers and "official communiques" have reported quite a considerable amount of fighting at close quarters, clearing trenches with the bayonet and so forth.

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

Two New Cups for Competition.

The Hongkong Chess Club is the prime mover in the starting of a chess championship of the Colony. The success of the proposal is already assured by the generosity of the British American Tobacco Co., Ltd., and Messrs. N. L. Sarna, who are presenting silver cups to be known as the Embassy and Ming Ohing cups respectively. The following preliminary proposals have been drawn up in connection with the competition:—

1. The entire management of the Championship and the ownership of the cups and any other prizes which may be presented or purchased from time to time, until such prizes shall have been won out right, shall be vested in a committee, composed of three members appointed by the Hongkong Chess Club, as the senior chess organisation in the Colony, and one member appointed by each of the other chess organisations. The first President and the first Honorary Treasurer shall each be elected by the committee from the three representatives of the Chess Club.

2. The first committee meeting shall be convened by the honorary secretary of the Hongkong Chess Club.

3. The competition shall be held before May, 1918.

4. The "Embassy" Cup, for the championship of the Colony, will become the property of the first winner on three occasions.

5. The Ming Ohing Cup is to be won outright by the Chinese competitor, scoring the highest points in the 1918 championship tournament.

6. The rules of play shall be those set forth in the British chess code and the rate of play in all games shall be 20 moves per hour. An entrance fee of \$1 will be payable by all competitors before the tournament commences.

All chess organisations interested are requested to communicate with Mr. H. W. Bay, Honorary Secretary of the Hongkong Chess Club, at as early a date as possible.

JUST EAT, SLEEP AND
WORK.

That is all some people do. They are deprived of all the higher things in life, all the pleasures and joys of existence, because ill-health has robbed them of their efficiency, and ordinary duties now take so much time that there is no opportunity for relaxation and social pleasures.

Are you like that? If you are, look into your own case and see if worry is not responsible for much of your trouble. Ask yourself whether you fret over little things and scold when you could just as well be pleasant.

The disorder which causes its victims to worry, whether they have anything to worry about or not, is neurasthenia.

The patient is usually pale—showing that the blood is thin—cannot derive good from food taken, and feels very weak and tired. The first thing to do is to build up the blood, because anything that builds up the general health helps to correct the neurasthenic condition. Dr. Williams' pink pills are an ideal tonic for neurasthenia and nerve disorders, because neurasthenic patients should always avoid alcohol and other stimulants. Obtain Dr. Williams' pink pills to-day from any dealer, or post free one bottle for \$8, from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Maclean Road, Shanghai.

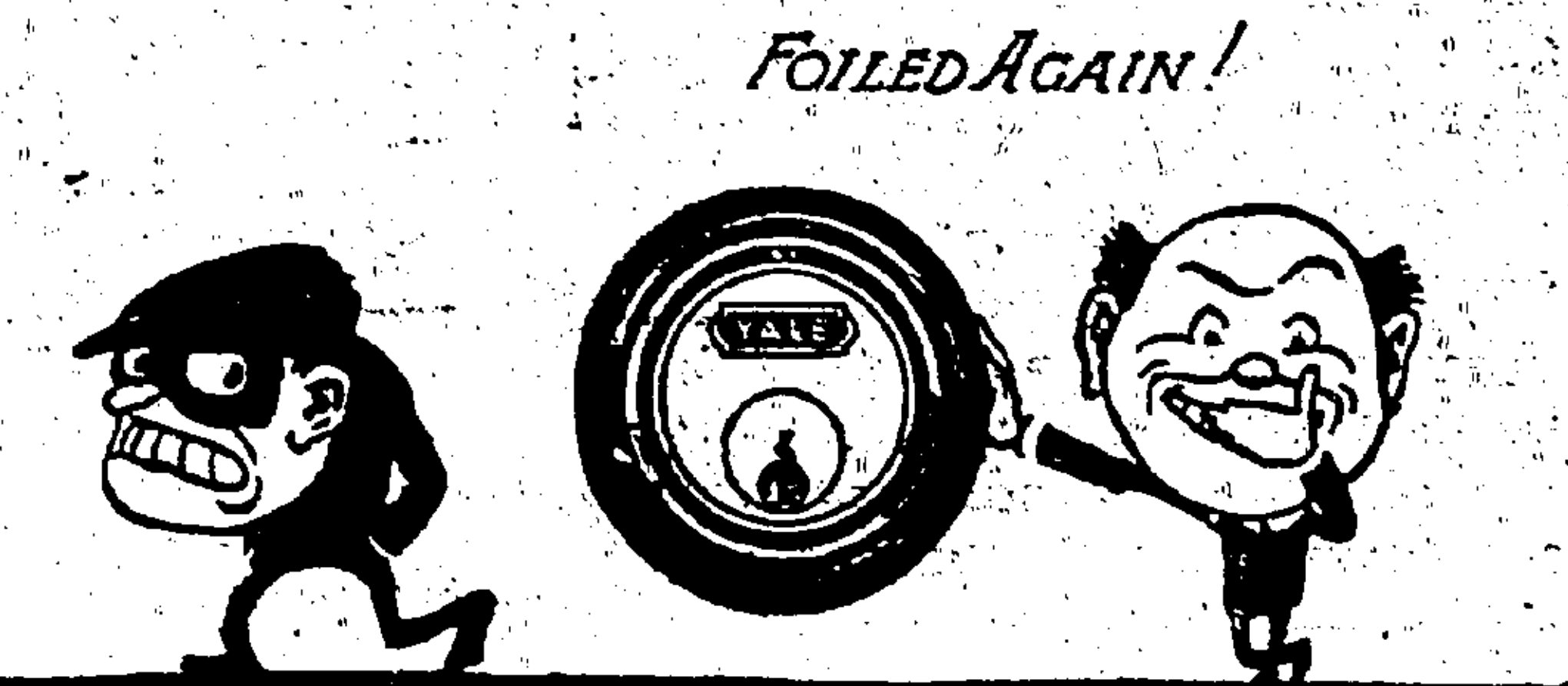
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MUSTARD & CO.
AGENTS

LABOUR AND THE NEW
ELECTORATE.

What Will Be Its Future Policy?
Mr. George J. Wardle, M.P., Secretary to the Board of Trade, writes in the *Daily Chronicle* as follows:—

There has been much talk and a great deal more speculation about the future policy of the Labour party now that the latest Statute Book. What will Labour do? How many Labour candidates will be run? What will be their attitude towards Imperial politics? Will they head straight for revolution?

Such talk and such questions indicate a very slight knowledge of the past history of this country. It took the British nation 600 years to remove political power from the hands of the Sovereign. For 200 years more that power remained in the hands of a few great families, and it needed the threat of an armed rising to admit the middle classes to a share in it. And these latter only succeeded by calling in the assistance of the workers.

The Reform Bill of 1832 was won, but the workers were left out in the cold. Indeed, in some respects that was a disfranchising measure, for places like Preston and Westminster had a franchise wider even than that which exists to-day. Immediately the Bill became law the working classes began their agitation for manhood suffrage, and it has taken 86 years to complete the work.

It is interesting to notice that of the six points of the people's Charter, five are—or soon will be—the law of the land. And I do not think that the sixth annual Parliaments, would get much support anywhere. But the men who framed the Charter kept one thing steadily before their eyes. Get the vote, they said, and if your votes are of equal value, all other things shall be added unto you.

Well, having got the vote, is it very surprising that the working men and women of this country should make up their minds to use it? Would it not be much more disquieting if we discovered that they did not intend to do so? With an electorate of over sixteen millions, is it very wonderful that a large mass of this electorate should set about getting for itself a fair share in the representation of the people?

But what will Labour do, what will be its policy? asks the timid citizen. What has it done in the past? We have seen a Labour party in being for nearly 15 years. Is there anything in its past demands, in the legislation for which it is mainly responsible, which smells of the powder-barrel or the torch? Its main demand has been the raising of the standard of life. At all times it has proclaimed the truth that the strength of a State is to be measured by the well-being of all its citizens. Hence measures like the Trade Boards Act, the Act for the feeding of school-children, old age pensions, and minimum wages for agricultural labourers.

Nor has the attention of the Labour party been confined to wages alone. The Miners' Eight Hours Act, the Shop Hours Act, the Insurance Act, full compensation for all workers for all industrial accidents—all these measures largely owe their inception and such completeness as can be claimed for them to the driving power of the Labour party. Does anybody believe that, if politics had remained in the same groove as that in which they moved during the 'sixties and 'seventies of the last century, we should have had measures like these passed into law? Moreover, is there any one who thinks that a single clause of them ought to be repealed? What signs are there, therefore, that a strengthened Labour party means the advent of "red ruin and the breaking-up of laws?"

But the Labour Party has had to pass through the gravest test of all. Three years ago a crisis came upon this Empire, the like of which it has never had to face before. Its very existence was threatened. The freedom which it had won for itself—the freedom which it had handed over to great commonwealths over the sea—was, attacked by an assassin's blow without warning. How did Labour meet this awful crisis? Did it flinch for one instant? The armed millions, with their terrible weapons which are now slowly hewing their way to victory supply the answer. The older men and the women backed their arms and bent their backs to keep them and the country supplied. I claim, that when the occasion arises, Labour can show itself to be as self-sacrificing and as national in its outlook as any other class. I shall

be reminded, of course, of things said and written by some members of the Party which do not altogether square with the views of the majority. And my answer is that from its very nature, the Party must have divergences of opinion. You cannot expect all men to think alike; better the looseness of the fruitful soil rather than the solidity of the barren rock.

And what of the future? Many more candidates will certainly be run at the next election. Great centres of population like Manchester, Leeds, Bolton, Blackburn, Derby, Sheffield, West Ham, and Newcastle will have a vastly enlarged electorate. They now return some Labour members; the opinion of the electors will certainly be taken as to whether they desire more. There are other great constituencies which have been carved out of the counties; these, too, will be consulted. Given the alternative vote, and there will be no danger of a candidate being returned who represents only a minority of the electorate.

There remains the question of political independence—always a thorny one when movements like ours are started. Ought we to take part in the government of the country, or ought we to hold resolutely aloof until we are strong enough to form a Government from our own ranks?

The note of the Labour party has been its independence of other parties. Other attempts at Labour representation in Parliament failed because of the want of this independence. I see no reason for thinking that this attitude will be abandoned in the future. In saying this, however, I would point out that no one can foresee the course which Imperial politics will take in the days to come. It is certain that affairs cannot go on as they did before the war. Our great free Commonwealths beyond the sea will demand and will obtain a larger share in the control of Imperial affairs. Questions will arise about trade and tariffs and external policy which demand consideration from a higher point than those which involve the fate of parties. Indeed, the whole question of parties is in the melting-pot, and while I do not anticipate the cessation of parties, a new grouping may well arise which will make all prophecies and forecasts futile.

